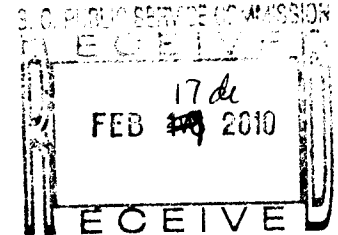


2009. 489 E
221911

860 Robert E. Lee Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29412

February 14, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210



Dear Sir,

Re: SCE&G Proposed Rate Hike

I am opposed to the upcoming SCE&G rate hikes on July 15, 2010; January 1, 2011 and July 1, 2011. I believe that the rate hikes requested are unjustified. In today's difficult economy families have to make do with existing resources by planning better and making difficult sacrifices as well as small businesses. SCE&G is claiming they have done all they can do in the cost saving area and there is nowhere else they can control cost. I doubt this is the case. When you consider their case please hire an independent consultant to examine their rate request and their cost cutting plans. I feel certain there are more areas in their organization where efficiencies could be found. Please also examine what could be outsourced by SCE&G to independent contractors to lower costs.

I believe the long term solution to keep costs under control is to allow competition through deregulation in the electricity and natural gas area. I have lowered my phone bill dramatically due to competition. Why can't I lower my electric and natural gas bill through the same type of competitive system? AT&T owns the phone wires to my house but I can get my phone service from a variety of companies competing on price to provide my phone service why can't I do the same with electricity and natural gas?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Brumfield".

Chris Brumfield

Cc: South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff

